



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**BRADLEY J. SCHLOZMAN**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **WEST PLAINS PAWN SHOP OWNER PLEADS GUILTY TO SELLING ILLEGAL FIREARMS**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Bradley J. Schlozman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the owner of a West Plains, Mo., pawn shop pleaded guilty in federal court today to selling illegal firearms – two “street sweeper” shotguns – to an undercover law enforcement officer, and possessing illegal firearms – including two machine guns.

**Michael D. Evans**, 43, of West Plains, waived his right to a grand jury and pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to a federal information that charges him with three violations of federal firearms law for the illegal transfer and possession of firearms not registered in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

**Evans** owns and operates West Plains Outfitters, 3256 Hoover Drive in West Plains, a pawn shop that is licensed to deal in firearms and ammunition. However, the license does not allow **Evans** to deal in destructive devices or machine guns.

**Evans** admitted that he sold a Cobray 12-gauge “street sweeper” shotgun with a 12-round rotating drum (a destructive device charged in Count One of the information) to an undercover law enforcement officer for \$2,000 on Dec. 22, 2004. **Evans** also admitted that he sold a Penn Arms 12-gauge “street sweeper” shotgun with a 12-round rotating drum (a destructive device charged in Count Two of the information), folding stock and mounted flash suppressor to the undercover law enforcement officer for \$2,200 on Feb. 22, 2005.

**Evans** admitted that he unlawfully received and possessed two Colt AR-15 .223-caliber rifles, which were modified to be fully automatic machine guns, and a dual-barreled 20-gauge short-barrel shotgun, as charged in Count Three of the information.

According to today’s plea agreement, numerous violations were found during the

investigation of West Plains Outfitters, including 55 criminal violations of federal record-keeping requirements.

By pleading guilty today, **Evans** also agreed to pay \$4,200 in restitution, which is the total amount he received from the undercover law enforcement officer who purchased the two shotguns from investigative funds.

Under federal statutes, **Evans** could be subject to a sentence of up to 30 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$750,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow/index.html)